

1-13-03
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Craig R. Burfeind et al.
Serial No.: 09/834,160
Filed: April 12, 2001
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MOBILE PERSONAL RADAR

Examiner: uUNKNOWN
Group Art Unit: 2151
Docket: 1081.005US1

PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d)

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MAR 12 2002
Technology Center 2100

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner to advance the above-identified Application out of turn for accelerated examination under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.102(d).

The Application meets the requirements of M.P.E.P. §708.02, section VIII. The petition fee of \$130.00 as set forth in § 1.17(h) which is required pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.102(d) is enclosed. The Application is a new application, not yet having received any examination. Applicant believes that all of the claims are directed to a single invention; however, if the Office shall determine that they do not obviously encompass only a single invention, Applicant agrees to make a telephone election without traverse. An enclosed Statement avers that a pre-examination search has been carried out, lists the field of the search, and discusses the relevant references, pointing out how the claimed subject matter is patentable over these references with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b) and (c). Copies of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter are enclosed in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAIG R. BURFEIND ET AL.

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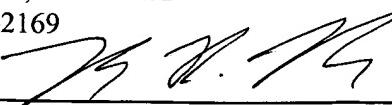
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 21 day of February, 2002.


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STATEMENT OF PRE-EXAMINATION SEARCH

Applicant hereby avers that a pre-examination search has been carried out. Applicant will list the field of the search, and will discuss the relevant references, pointing out how the claimed subject matter is patentable over these references with the particularity required by 37 C.F.R. 1.111(b) and (c). Copies of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter are enclosed in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement and Form 1449.

Applicant hereby lists the fields included in the pre-examination search (U.S.

Class/Subclass):

701/3; 701/201; 701/208; 701/210; 701/212; 701/213;

340/988; 340/995

342/357.09; 342/357.1

709/203

455/456; 455/457

Applicant searched on various terms, including: weather map data, center, location of interest, point of interest, hand-held device, handheld mobile device, geographic weather data, geographic weather reports, wireless device, display weather data, wireless network.

Applicant deems the following references most closely related to the subject matter:

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,018,699 (Baron, Sr. et al., hereinafter Baron).
2. U.S. Patent No. 6,202,023 (Hancock et al., hereinafter Hancock).
3. U.S. Patent No. 6,240,341 (Snyder).
4. U.S. Patent No. 6,321,158 (DeLorme et al., hereinafter DeLorme).
5. U.S. Patent No. 6,339,747 (Daly et al.).

Applicant believes that the claimed subject matter is patentable over each of these references. Applicant will discuss each of the references below.

Baron

This patent is entitled "Systems and Methods for Distributing Real-Time Site Specific Weather Information." Baron discloses a system for providing real-time site specific weather information that includes a weather alert manager that receives meteorological data and combines it with a geographical grid covering a predefined geographic area to produce a storm profile for the storms within the geographical area, wherein the geographic grid partitions the geographic area into a set of cells. The predefined geographic area includes a number of these cells. A distribution network distributes the storm profiles to the respective remote units in these cells. The remote units are configured to process the storm profiles and present real-time site specific weather information based upon the storm profile.

Baron does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 20-27. For example, Baron does not teach or suggest the wireless client device recited in these claims. In Baron, the remote units do not have software to receive user input from an input device, generate a server request for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest, and display a customized weather map for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of a graphical display. Baron also does not teach or suggest the server system recited in claims 20-27. In Baron, the distribution network does not have software to receive a server request for weather map data for a geographic point of interest, process weather map data from a source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, and transmit the customized weather map to a wireless client device. The distribution network only distributes storm profiles to the respective remote units in cells of the predefined geographic areas.

For these and other reasons, Baron also does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 34-41, 48-55, and 62-69.

Baron also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 28-33. For example, Baron does not teach or suggest sending a request to a server for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest of a user, processing weather map data on the server from the source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, transmitting the customized weather map

to the wireless client device, and displaying the customized weather map for the geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest on a graphical display of the wireless client device, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of the graphical display. In Baron, the distribution network only distributes storm profiles to the respective remote units in cells of the predefined geographic areas.

For these and other reasons, Baron also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 42-47, 56-61, and 70-73.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed subject matter is patentable over Baron, because Baron does not teach or suggest all elements of claims 20-73.

Hancock

This patent is entitled “Internet Based Geographic Location Referencing System and Method.” Hancock discloses a system and method for providing services over a computer network, such as the Internet, to users with information that is specific to the user’s geographic location. In Hancock, a client connects with a server coupled to a computer network, such as the Internet. The location of the client is determined. The client sends the server a request for a category of interest, and the server performs a database query to retrieve an address for a specific enhanced server that matches the client’s request. The server then sends the client a specific Universal Resource Locator (URL) that contains the address of the enhanced server. The client then launches a web browser or the like, and connects with the URL. The client then automatically displays relevant data from the enhanced server that is customized for the client’s geographic location without additional input from the client. In one example of Hancock, a client connects to a URL of an enhanced server of a weather service, whereby the service automatically displays a weather report for the current area. This is accomplished without requiring that the user manually enter data related to the current location.

Hancock does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 20-27. For example, Hancock does not teach or suggest the wireless client device recited in these claims. In Hancock, the client simply initiates a connection with the URL of the enhanced server providing a desired service. The client then automatically receives data. The client does not have software to receive user input from an input device, generate a server request for weather map data

corresponding to a geographic point of interest, and display a customized weather map for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of a graphical display. Hancock also does not teach or suggest the server system recited in claims 20-27. In Hancock, neither the server nor enhanced server alone have software to receive a server request for weather map data for a geographic point of interest, process weather map data from a source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, and transmit the customized weather map to a wireless client device.

For these and other reasons, Hancock also does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 34-41, 48-55, and 62-69.

Hancock also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 28-33. For example, Hancock does not teach or suggest sending a request to a server for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest of a user, processing weather map data on the server from the source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, transmitting the customized weather map to the wireless client device, and displaying the customized weather map for the geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest on a graphical display of the wireless client device, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of the graphical display. In Hancock, the client simply initiates a connection with the URL of the enhanced server providing a desired service. The client then automatically receives data.

For these and other reasons, Hancock also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 42-47, 56-61, and 70-73.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed subject matter is patentable over Hancock, because Hancock does not teach or suggest all elements of claims 20-73.

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Snyder

This patent is entitled “Flight Management System (FMS) with Integrated Bit Mapped Data Charts.” Snyder discloses an aircraft FMS that is able to simultaneously display FMS navigational data and geographically referenced bitmap data charts (such as IFR and VFR charts), whereby a common distance algorithm is applied to all data based on a map center position. In Snyder, the distance algorithm is preferably based on Sedonos Equations to accurately determine the distance of the various data from the aircraft, thus achieving registration on the single display. Snyder allows for an arbitrary number of bitmapped data charts to be tiled, overlapped, rotated, or scaled on the display.

Snyder does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 20-27. For example, Snyder does not teach or suggest the wireless client device recited in these claims. In Snyder, the aircraft FMS does not have software to receive user input from an input device, generate a server request for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest, and display a customized weather map for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of a graphical display. Snyder also does not teach or suggest the server system recited in claims 20-27. In Snyder, the aircraft system, including the FMS computer and bitmap data charts, do not have software to receive a server request for weather map data for a geographic point of interest, process weather map data from a source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, and transmit the customized weather map to a wireless client device. The FMS computer of Snyder is programmed prior to takeoff of the aircraft, and the bitmap data charts comprise geographically referenced bitmapped image data that is pre-stored in a texture memory.

For these and other reasons, Snyder also does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 34-41, 48-55, and 62-69.

Snyder also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 28-33. For example, Snyder does not teach or suggest sending a request to a server for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest of a user, processing weather map data on the server from the source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, transmitting the customized weather map

to the wireless client device, and displaying the customized weather map for the geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest on a graphical display of the wireless client device, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of the graphical display. The FMS computer of Snyder is programmed prior to takeoff of the aircraft, and the bitmap data charts comprise geographically referenced bitmapped image data that is pre-stored in a texture memory.

For these and other reasons, Snyder also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 42-47, 56-61, and 70-73.

Therefore, Applicant submits that the claimed subject matter is patentable over Snyder, because Snyder does not teach or suggest all elements of claims 20-73.

DeLorme

This patent is entitled “Integrated Routing/Mapping Information.” DeLorme discloses an integrated routing/mapping information system (IRMIS), including a hand-held device. Such devices may be optionally equipped with, or connected to, portable Global Positioning System (GPS). DeLorme discloses a map/route/point-of-interest cartographic system, which desktop enables user selectivity or customization of map and route information. DeLorme also discloses automatic zooming within the IRMIS.

DeLorme does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 20-27. For example, DeLorme does not teach or suggest the wireless client device recited in these claims. In DeLorme, the hand-held device does not have software to receive user input from an input device, generate a server request for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest, and display a customized weather map for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of a graphical display. DeLorme also does not teach or suggest the server system recited in claims 20-27. DeLorme does not teach or suggest a server system having software to receive a server request for weather map data for a geographic point of interest, process weather map data from a source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, and transmit the customized weather map to a wireless client device.

For these and other reasons, DeLorme also does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 34-41, 48-55, and 62-69.

DeLorme also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 28-33. For example, DeLorme does not teach or suggest sending a request to a server for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest of a user, processing weather map data on the server from the source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, transmitting the customized weather map to the wireless client device, and displaying the customized weather map for the geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest on a graphical display of the wireless client device, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of the graphical display.

For these and other reasons, DeLorme also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 42-47, 56-61, and 70-73.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed subject matter is patentable over DeLorme, because DeLorme does not teach or suggest all elements of claims 20-73.

Daly

This patent is entitled “Weather Tracking and Display System and Method.” Daly discloses a system and method for preparing and manipulating a weather display, including accurately displaying the current position of a weather storm cell and predicting and displaying a future path of the cell. In Daly, accurate storm cell path prediction and display is provided by updating the displayed position of detailed NEXRAD weather radar information with live radar to provide an enhanced ability to accurately predict the movement of severe weather cells.

Daly does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 20-27. For example, Daly does not teach or suggest the wireless client device recited in these claims. Daly does not teach or suggest a wireless client device that has software to receive user input from an input device, generate a server request for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest, and display a customized weather map for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of a graphical display. Daly also does not teach or suggest the server system

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recited in claims 20-27. Daly does not teach or suggest a server system having software to receive a server request for weather map data for a geographic point of interest, process weather map data from a source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, and transmit the customized weather map to a wireless client device.

For these and other reasons, Daly also does not teach or suggest all elements of the system claims 34-41, 48-55, and 62-69.

Daly also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 28-33. For example, Daly does not teach or suggest sending a request to a server for weather map data corresponding to a geographic point of interest of a user, processing weather map data on the server from the source of weather map data for a geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest to produce a customized weather map, transmitting the customized weather map to the wireless client device, and displaying the customized weather map for the geographic region surrounding the geographic point of interest on a graphical display of the wireless client device, wherein the geographic point of interest is substantially aligned with a center point of the graphical display.

For these and other reasons, Daly also does not teach or suggest all elements of the method claims 42-47, 56-61, and 70-73.

Therefore, Applicant submits that the claimed subject matter is patentable over Daly, because Daly does not teach or suggest all elements of claims 20-73.